Lahiri Committee Report on liberalisation of FII norms

2936. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Lahiri Committee Report on liberalised Foreign Institutional Investment (FII) norms has since been submitted to Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Reserve Bank of India has expressed reservation on some of the recommendations of the Lahiri Committee and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when Government are likely to take final view on the Lahiri Committee recommendations and put them into operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (d) The report of the Expert Group on "Encouraging FII flows and checking the vulnerability of capital market to speculative flows" was submitted to the Government on 22nd November, 2005. RBI's nominee on the Expert Group has given a dissent note which is a part of the Report and *inter-alia* includes views on issues of Participatory Notes, ceiling on sub-amounts and level of investment in debt. The report has been put in the public domain on the website of the Ministry of Finance to encourage a public debate on the recommendations of the report. The Government would take a view on the report and the recommendations after wide public debate.

Hike in interest rates on post office deposits

2937. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to hike interest rates on short term and long term post office deposits;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) An Expert Committee on Administered